

26450 Box 9 #55
2016.209

THE BELL RINGER



VOLUME 47, NUMBER 3

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

DECEMBER 19, 1990

Chorus Preview

by Winn Keathley

writer

The MBA chorus is back and ready for the holiday season. Under the expert leadership of Michael Kemp and assisted by pianist Marian Ross, the chorus has prepared a program of traditional carols such as "The Carol of the Drum" and "Deck the Halls," as well as some less known works such as "Noel, Noel" which is done in a mixture of English and French.

After an early performance at Vine Street Christian Church during the day on December 4, the 26 man group is looking forward to

the main performance at St. George's Church on December 17. The Chorus has had a long tradition of excellent Christmas performances and has worked hard all year to prepare for the December 17 show.

Mr. Kemp also requests that anyone who can come please bring new or used toys in good shape which will be donated to children who may not otherwise receive much for the holidays. Any students who come to support the chorus will be greatly appreciated; in return, the chorus will present some great holiday music.

To Shake or not to Shake

by Luke Davis

Sports Editor

Throughout the Mid-South, people waited anxiously for the moment predicted by climatologist Iben Browning on December 3 at 4:56 p.m. when an earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale was to erupt along the New Madrid Fault in this year

area. Thousands packed away their breakables, participated in earthquake drills, stored up food and water, and bought earthquake insurance in preparation for the impending disaster. But nothing happened.

Now that the day has passed, many of those who

1990
People
across Tennessee, Missouri, and surrounding states had begun their prepara-

tions for "Shakedown '90" over a year ago when Browning first suggested that there was a "50-50 chance" that a quake more powerful than the one that rocked San Francisco in 1989 would hit the

"...everyone is glad that the destruction of property and human lives did not occur."

put so much faith in the prediction are ridiculing

Browning for the uproar he created. To others, however, it seems that the climatologist will laugh all the way to the bank. Much like the Rapture of 1989, the earthquake of '90 please see *Earthquake* page 2

by Alex Rogers copy editor

Thirty years ago, President Kennedy inaugurated the Peace Corps. This Corps sends Americans all over the world to engage in intercultural exchange and community development. One of MBA's faculty, Mr. Chris Spiegl, was a member of the Peace Corps after leaving college.

The decision to live as a member of a foreign agricultural community for three years was a decision that was not made lightly. The application was lengthy and difficult to complete; one must ask why Mr. Spiegl took the time and had the interest to fill out such an application. The answer is quite simple: "It was for the adventure," he says.

After being accepted, Mr. Spiegl and the other inductees were given a three month training course. For him, this training course had three components: language, cross-cultural preparation, and specified agricultural training. The language program, which he cites as being the most beneficial of the three, was a four to six hour class every day to ensure a survival level ability in a foreign language.

Mr. Spiegl calls the cross-cultural training experience, "most interesting, although probably more beneficial for the women since they had to learn how to deal with extremely machismo societies. One of the things I had to learn was how to deal with the men of the community who were heavy night-time drinkers." These problems were only two of the many cultural



differences with which Mr. Spiegl had to cope.

The agricultural training, he says, was "disappointing" since it was not relevant to the region where he had been assigned. Along with the agricultural training, were instructions on how to improve the standards of living and health within a village.

Mr. Spiegl, after his intense preparation, was sent to Ecuador. He says he chose Ecuador because: "I had a previous backing in Spanish, and I like the mountains."

In Ecuador, he was assigned to Santiago, a community with a population of about 560. His first impression was, "getting off of a bus with a big duffel bag, feeling unprepared in a totally foreign environment." According to Spiegl, "It took between three and six months before I started feeling productive. Initially all the people were wary, then curious, and finally accepting. It was the children, though, who

photo by David Schenk
first accepted me."

Once accepted, Mr. Spiegl began to aid the village in an important capacity: he procured certain seeds which were difficult and prohibitively expensive for the village to obtain. It was through his efforts that the village received these seeds at an affordable price and useful quantity. Not only did he "procure good seeds at a good price," but also helped found a youth group.

This group would ask local farms to donate trees to the group; then, the group would replant the trees for a profit for the village and would gather the seeds from the trees in order to cache seeds for next year's crop. By Mr. Spiegl's efforts, a group was founded that became self-sufficient and performed a community service. He helped create better sanitary conditions within the village and imparted his first aid please see *Spiegl* pg. 2

-Varsity Wrestling takes big win at Cleveland-
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Interested in local bands? Want to know more?
Check out the local scene on [page 6](#).

Viewpoint: Montgomery Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee
What is the best course of action for the United States to take in a rapidly changing world?
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NEWS & FEATURES

-Debaters continue to roll-

Do well at recent tournaments

by Andrew Vahrenkamp
staff writer

photo by David Schenk



The MBA debate team has continued its winning ways with strong performances in a number of tournaments.

The MBA debate team began the month of November by going to the Patriot Classic in Homewood, Alabama. In the varsity division, the team of Babu "and his Bababes" Paruchuri and Suresh "Hey, where's Behdad" Gunasekaran compiled an undefeated record in the prelims, but lost a close round in the semifinals. The team of Rob "I broke out during break-out" Howell and

Behdad Shahsavari went 4-1, and reached the octafinals where they lost to the eventual champions. The team of John "Sonic Boom" Wesley and Breen Frazier also had a 4-1 record, and eventually made it to the quarterfinals. The fourth varsity team of Pat "Bones is an idiot" Jackson and Bones "I dunno" Vainkunth did not break into the elimination rounds; however, they did score a respectable 3-2 record.

In the novice division, the MBA novices continued to destroy opposition, with the team of Hayes "Why do you always call me stupid?"

Fowler and Jason "The Lion sleeps tonight" Bennett going undefeated and making the finals, where they hit the team of Naresh "Nagellahead" Nagella and Bobby "the Messiah" Hartman. The team of Alan "Cat Burglar" Sundell and Bartley McGehee lost in the quarterfinals, and the team of Sanjay "5:00 shadow" Shenai and Brooks Martin reached the first round, where they had to forfeit to Bennett and Fowler.

In the Lincoln-Douglas, Jim Miller advanced to the semi-finals, and Ron "She's just my size" Cantrell reached the quarters.

In individual events, Matt "Shut up on the bus" Foster was fourth place in Dramatic Interpretation. In addition, Jason Bennett was named the top speaker in the novice division, with Bartley fifth and Hayes ninth. For the varsity, Babu Paruchuri captured the top speaking prize. These competitors brought MBA the first place trophy.

The next week, the team travelled to Chicago for the Glenbrook South Invitational. Even though the top varsity team of Babu and Rob lost in the quarters, Behdad and Suresh reached the semis only to lose a close round. The team of John Wesley and Willie "Schmak" Gray also fared well in the Windy City. In the novice division, Jason "Toothpick" Bennett and Hayes "Mule" Fowler won the tournament and were named first and second

...Spiegl from page 1

knowledge such as how boiling water will sterilize utensils.

On a more mundane note, Mr. Spiegl introduced basketball to Santiago. In local competitions, Mr. Spiegl fared well, due in part to "short goals and the full contact nature of the local games." The more common athletic pastime for the community was three-man volleyball for the adults and football (soccer) for the youth. As Mr. Spiegl puts it: "In a soccer match, they ran circles around me."

One of the things that "helped me [Mr. Spiegl]

deside to become a teacher was my experience in Santiago." His experience affected him even as he returned to the United States. "I was depressed to come back; I had such a sense of wonder at the whole experience; to see another culture helped put mine in perspective, both in terms of strengths and weaknesses."

We can learn much from Mr. Spiegl's example by realizing that our culture is not the only culture, and that we must make an effort, as Mr. Spiegl did, to understand other cultures before we judge their society or our own.

...Earthquake from page 1

was well publicized not only by the media but also by Browning himself, who marketed a \$99 dollar video laying out his forecasts for natural disasters. On the tape, he also projected a global cooling trend attributed to the increasing amounts of volcanic ash in the atmosphere. A major volcanic eruption in the Pacific approximately ten days after the quake was also predicted. Although he has been criticized by many geologists who have rightly noted that Browning's area of expertise is in analyzing not the earth's internal movements but seasonal weather trends, Browning has been credited by some with predicting the eruption of Mt. St. Helens and the St. Andrews

movement of 1989.

One Austin Peay professor pilloried Browning's prediction and took his class to Memphis on December 3 to show his confidence. Others have accused the climatologist of astrology, noting the unusual 12/3 4:56 7.8 '90 sequence of the predicted conditions for the earthquake. In any case, almost everyone is glad that the destruction of property and human lives did not occur. Few experts deny, however, that the area is due for a major earthquake in next ten years.

That would be good news for no one, except for fishermen on Reelfoot Lake, which was created in the great quake of 1812 but which is getting a little low on crappie.

THE BELL RINGER

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The following students have earned three or more credits and are now staff members: Mark Bittles, Justin Crosslin, Roe Elam, Trip McLaughlin, Jim Morehead, Shade Murray, George Rietz, Earle Simmons, John Wallace, John Wesley, Jackson Wray, and Andrew Vahrenkamp.

Merry Christmas from *The Bell Ringer*!

please see Debate on page 7

**Skipworth saltues James Nash**

James Nash has garnered many academic medals in his years on the Hill. In addition, James is the president of the Fine Arts Club and a member of the golf team.

Skipworth

EXCEPTIONAL
PORTRAITURE

TEACHER'S EDITORIAL

I'm Not a Television and You're Not a Video-Tape

by Haywood Moxley

My wife teaches English, so do I. Sometimes I wonder what life would be like if I didn't. Walking from school down Clearview Avenue—a peaceful road when you guys aren't racing on it—I practice preambles like, "Hello, I'm Haywood Moxley. My wife and I aren't English teachers, never wanted to be, and not being English teachers, we want to sell you some life insurance, or if not that, some wingtip shoes." For a frightening moment, the fantasy lingers: me, a suit in a tall building; me, a citizen hero shoe salesman. Then a flag rises, a trumpet blasts, and there in the gutter I stop to re-discover myself. A voice within speaks: "Wingtip shoes... wingtip... wing—" and suddenly I realize that I love my job, that I don't ever want to sell houses or insurance or shoes, that being an English teacher is the greatest life on earth.

It's plain and simple. I love words, the sound in the mind before reaching the tongue, their feel in the mouth and air, the images they call to mind: wingtips—Mercury with winged feet shimmering over rolling waters, a swift gull in wing-tip Nikes.

Such fanciful words sustain me, for I am a marketer of language. To you students, I peddle plays, poems, and stories. If you buy only one, I am a master salesman, a howling success.

Nevertheless, like most Americans, I think daily of quitting and starting over. There's got to be an easier job than conning teenagers to believe that verbals and clauses bear heavily on their lives. "Give us a break, Mr. Moxley," you say. "How long before the bell? Did you know that his wife teaches English, too? That's sick."

So far, I have outlasted the job-changing fantasy, but many affluent white collars taught English in their idealistic youth before chasing careers that earn more money. Teaching, unfortunately, has never been the ambitious man's career. Nowadays, teachers work doggedly knowing that dog-bitten garbage men pocket more coin than dog-tired teachers.

Today, teaching English is growing harder and harder. The reason, I argue, is that reading and writing for their own sakes have nothing to do with getting rich, the primary goal of this generation's educated class. In fact, most people who read closely and write well make hardly any money at all.

Even at M.B.A.—where I delight in my less than sixty students, good students who care about their minds—I find it impossible to cover as much as my predecessors did twenty years ago. Am I to blame for the slowdown? Are my students the guilty ones? Or is there some Invisible Force on the loose, an alien power sapping us of our strength to handle Dickens and Faulkner, to grasp their language, people, and beliefs without handouts, plot summaries, and fail-safe theme topics? What has happened to us that reading a book has become an enormous chore, a term project coordinated on a class syllabus?

There are some teachers who think the trouble is with teachers like me who worry too much. "The students can do all the work," they argue, feeding duplexed handouts into the Supreme Xerox Being, "if you demand it. They just aren't disciplined."

Perhaps.

But maybe not.

What if a student can't readily understand *Heart of Darkness* or *Lord Jim* or *All the King's Men*? What if he has to find six quotations to support an analysis of a topic he doesn't understand? What if we're asking him to fly without strong wingtips?

I believe in the Invisible Force Theory, the idea that something beyond our control is preventing us from reading deeply. Sounds mystical, I know, but consider how well one has to read and write to prosper materially in our society. Radio, T.V., and magazine ads well sell our economy; one doesn't have to write themes to author a successful advertisement. Ad writers make big bucks. In every business from shoe to computer sales, writing survives as fragments of expres-

sion: a memo, an invoice, clichés blazoned under sexy models selling liquor or underwear.

It follows, you may contend, that if our economy doesn't require sophisticated reading and writing skills, why do we bother with all these 500-word themes and 450-page nineteenth-century novels? What's the use?

I can't speak for other teachers, but I assign hefty themes and overweight books because I am not a cynic; I don't teach reading and writing to uphold this school's reputation or to make MBA a stepping stone to the Dukes and Davidsons, the Princetons and Yales. We ponder the failure of Romeo and Juliet's love, the isolation of *The Invisible Man*, the perversion of Hawthorne's Puritan misfits not to buy Porsches or Rolexes but to enrich ourselves spiritually, to discover what we can become.

Of course, we English teachers should realize that our students are challenged intellectually and emotionally in ways unknown to Dickens' contemporary audience. We are a visual culture, one inclined to discover itself in video and film. Most of us watch three or four movies a week; that's eight hours that pre-video generations spent reading a novel. Indeed, in today's America, video literacy is crucial to our development as responsible and self-reliant thinkers.

I'm afraid, however, that by succumbing to the urge to watch passively and seldom to read, by ignoring the muscle of imagination, we will become a soldier-like



photo by David Schenk
people, able followers of instructions but not creators of our own. Without the critical skills that reading informs, we would be a society blind to self-examination, a nation duped by commerciality.

During our school breaks, for example, the DL's hit the patio to throw apples, the PL's invade the Trophy Room to punt paper footballs, the teachers dally in their sanctuary to pour coffee. Rarely does one see a paperback in a back pocket, even a rousing plot-packer by a Tom Clancy or an Anne Rice. In high schools everywhere, reading has become social anathema, the modern mark of Cain, the signet of unpopularity, a portent of a crippled "lifestyle."

Readers all too often are at the bottom of a flesh pile.

I also realize that students take five academic classes

and presumably have homework nightly in each one. Maybe you don't have the spare time to read for pleasure. If that's the case, then something is wrong. Somebody—your teachers, our administration—should organize a responsible, challenging curriculum that affords you the time to read or write or draw—time to bring your own creative energy to bear on your life.

Even in the best of worlds, however, reading and writing will never come easy. They take action and imagination. A good book should question your beliefs and force you from complacency. "Truth," Plato wrote, "is grasped by an effort of the intellect rather than by the senses." By reading you will write wonderful stories. By reading you will write beautiful love letters.

In reading you will find a world.



photo by David Schenk

OPINIONS

The Role of the U.S. in the World Economy



photo by David Schenk

by Babu Paruchuri
Business Editor

With the rise of Germany and Japan in the world economy, the United States must now adjust its economic policies to a more competitive world. Maintaining competitiveness will require renewed fiscal responsibility, an effort to aid the democratization efforts of fragile democracies, and an effort to create an atmosphere conducive to free trade.

The first step for the United States to reclaim its economic strength is to deal with its huge deficit. Despite the formation of a recent bipartisan compromise on the budget, the federal deficit is still expected to rise to \$254 billion in 1991.

This failure to restrain spending has resulted in yet another failure to meet Gramm-Rudman targets. The compromise dodged the issue of the need for reductions in spending by allowing the largest tax increase in U.S. history—over \$100 billion. It is feared that this move will justify further spending in the future.

The result of such huge deficits has been that foreign investors have been increasingly disillusioned with the fiscal responsibility of the U.S. government. If the foreign investors were to pull out their investments because of fear of recession or the U.S.'s inability to pay back debts to them, the U.S. would be left in a precarious position of trying to recover from debts for which it will not have money.

The inaction on federal spending reductions has left the Federal Reserve Board (FRB) in a position where it cannot reduce intense rates in fear of continued inflation and cannot remain in a position of imposing high intense rates and tight credit in a sluggish economy. Unemployment, inflation, and many indicators of recession place the U.S. in a vulnerable position. If cuts in entitlements are not made in the future, the economy will remain in a financially unstable situation.

Another reason for a reduction in the deficit is that the U.S. must now be prepared to be a lender in the development of a new economic order. The transformation of the East European countries from communism to more democratic scales will not be an easy transition. U.S. foreign aid would facilitate the transition to a more free market economy. Economic assistance to fragile democracies in Eastern Europe and Central America will undoubtedly be in the political interests of the United States.

To prevent a lull of Eastern European economies and a disproportionate rise in German power, the U.S. must strongly encourage economic cooperation in the European Economic Community while preventing the formation of harmful trading blocs against the U.S. The Eastern European countries have been slow in their efforts to inte-

grate in to Western European economy in part because they are not ready to be incorporated.

The Council of Europe has officially begun to allow Eastern Europe to enter the Council. This Council of Europe is seen by many analysts as the apprenticeship of Eastern Europe's entrance into the European Community that currently consists of Western European countries. The European Economic Community is expected to establish free trade within Western Europe by 1992.

The European Free Trade Association in 1993 will establish free market access to member countries. To avoid alienation of Eastern Europe from the West, the U.S. and other European countries should encourage regional cooperation within Eastern Europe to facilitate their transition to a more free market economy. If the countries were allowed to form their own groupings within Eastern Europe, the individual nations could avoid free-market competition at a time when their economies are still evolving.

Economists indicate that Eastern Europe is not ready for free trade. These eastern economies that have geared their own economies to the East and Soviet Union for many decades must now slowly adjust their production to the needs of the world market. A sudden dramatic shift in the economic policies of these countries would dis-

rupt the previous trade with other Eastern countries, and this action could immediately undermine these Eastern European nations. If the U.S. were to encourage cooperative financial aid and purchases through the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the instability in Europe might ease.

Meanwhile, the U.S. should continue its negotiations with European countries to lower future tariffs by the European Community (EC), for the results of a trade war between the E.C. and the U.S. would be catastrophic to the world market.

Finally, tense U.S.-Japanese relations can now only be eased through a commitment by the U.S. to an atmosphere of free trade; however, these negotiations require compromises and understandings of limitations placed on the Japanese economic policies. As a result of the press and other propaganda, the Japanese people have come to believe that the U.S. is against any attempt at Japanese economic expansion. This mindset of mistrust led to an increase in U.S.-Japanese tensions over trade barriers.

The recent Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) has been encouraged by the U.S. to break down trade barriers. These trade negotiations are hindered by the nature of Japanese society that has traditionally been protectionist in its government subsidies of exports, its own bid-rigging over domestic investments that gives the Japanese another edge, and the distribution-*keiretsu*, which is the idea of grouping domestic retail companies into agreements to prevent competition from foreign companies

against each individual country. Japan's economic policies are governed by the principle of national security as its foreign ministers encourage separate informal agreements with countries.

Japan now blames the U.S. economy for lack of competitiveness and indicates that improved production, education, and a stronger economy would allow the U.S. to solve its trade woes without the formation of bilateral trade agreements. These suggestions are, in part, viable.

Japanese neonationalism has risen in reaction to these trade talks and threatens to unravel any hopes for an agreement to reduce tariffs. The U.S. should encourage international agreements that involve more than the U.S. and Japan. If agreements were to include European nations, the Japanese might be more inclined to make trade agreements because they would not perceive the U.S. as being discriminatory in its trade policies.

One suggestion is that the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) could be used to encourage more open trade by all countries to reduce competition between blocs. If there are no international agreements to include the U.S., Japan, and Europe, the result might be that any trade restrictions between these blocs would increase trade wars and increase legislation between blocs.

With the absence of an international agreement, bilateral trade agreements would only heighten suspicions. Cooperation is now the key word in the world markets.

photo by David Schenk



OPINIONS

-Letters to the Editor -

Should the reserve book policy be changed?/ Where was Duds Day?

by Chris Steele
To the Editor:

The new reserve book policy in the library has caused a major stir among students, especially among those students whom this affects more drastically than underclassmen. Prior to this year, one or two demerits were received for failure to return overnight reserve check-outs on time. Under the policy instituted just a few months ago, any students failing to return a reserve book on time forfeits all overnight check-out rights for the entire year.

One argument for the policy is that overnight reserve check-outs are not a right, but a privilege. This statement is correct in its assessment that MBA students hold a great privilege in having access to these materials. In this respect, MBA students are very fortunate to be able to use these resources. But when assignments are given out of these materials and students

are expected to use the materials for research, it becomes every student's right to have access to the books for overnight use.

Another argument in favor of the policy is that the old demerit system was not putting out equal punishment for equal crimes. Demerit supervisors note that the same number of demerits used to be given out for a late reserve book returned after first period as are given out for a book returned after eighth period, thus making it possible for a student to keep the book for the remainder of the day without further penalty. But does not the current policy give the same punishment to all offenders? The change then is not a change to a fairer policy, but merely to a harsher one.

Further, from the seventh grade on, MBA students have been told that the demerit system was put in place so that behavioral infractions would not be punished through

grades. But this new reserve book policy goes directly against the purpose of the demerit system. The denial of overnight use of the reserve books greatly hampers students' ability to research adequately material which may be needed on the next test or theme in a particular subject. In this way, the new policy really only punishes the student's grade.

One of the most important arguments for the new policy is that failure to return books on time constitutes a lack of respect for fellow students. Granted, knowingly keeping a late book out all day and keeping others from having access to the resource is malicious and deserving of punishment. But on extremely rare occasions, honest students do forget for perhaps one period that they have a reserve book out. In these situations, most students do everything possible to rectify the problem. This irresponsible behavior certainly de-

serves some sanctions, but wasn't it for this reason that the demerit system and the Honor Code were created?

The students of MBA are greatly appreciative of the efforts of both the library staff and Mr. Owen for this attempt to make the reserve book policy more equitable, but these changes seem to be doing more harm than good. Unquestionably, MBA's greatest success is its ability to put academics above everything except the making of a gentleman. Therefore, let's punish failure to act like a gentleman in ways which were designed for that purpose and leave academic punishment for failure to perform well in the classroom. MBA students see the value of this kind of equity. If measures to increase equity need to be implemented, let them be in the proper places. MBA students would much rather have demerits than lose such a valuable resource as overnight check-out privileges.

Dear Editor,

I don't know whether anyone has noticed, but almost all of the fall season has come and gone without the annual holding of Duds Day. Duds Day, for the new students at MBA, is a day when people pay (usually one dollar) to wear what they wish (with several constraints).

This removal of Duds Day from the schedule not only deletes a spirited event in campus life but also passes up a great opportunity for the school to make money. Of course some people may argue that Duds Day is too much of a distraction, and that the students would not accomplish as much work during that particular day. Get real, people! It is only for one day (although I think that two per year would be better). Furthermore, it is a great way for students to express their individualism without risking demerits. I hope that the reason for this calamity is simply an oversight and not a permanent change in the annual schedule.

-a concerned student

Stagnation and Decay ?

by Tate McDaniel and
Taylor Mayes

writers

In the most recent issue of the Harpeth Hall newspaper *Logos II*, a student published an article denouncing the traditional MBA Spaghetti Supper invitation to freshmen girls. The article condones such activities as joint MBA-Harpeth Hall dances and other gatherings, but she feels that this particular event is degrading to women.

According to Webster's *Dictionary*, an invitation is the requesting of a person's company or participation in an event with the option of decline or acceptance. If the girls do not wish to serve at the Spaghetti Supper, then they don't have to participate. In other words, it is their decision.

Furthermore, the student claims that this event causes "stagnation and decay in our society." Ninety-nine percent of our society in Nashville probably does not

care about the Spaghetti Supper, and especially whether one has to serve at the function.

Social problems are an example the causes of stagnation and decay in a society, not the serving of lemonade at high school homecoming. We are confused about why the student is so adamant in refusing to help or even attend an MBA function.

To break away from the Spaghetti Supper ordeal, we would like to touch base on the recent sign incident at Harpeth Hall. Two signs were put up at Harpeth Hall to promote a bonfire at M.B.A. and to promote the football game that Friday night.

The signs distinctly read the time, place, and type of event for the respective functions with no derogatory comments toward Harpeth Hall or toward girls in general; nevertheless, these signs were destroyed and taken of-

fensively. They were decorated with phrases like, "You can walk on our flowers, but you can't walk on us!" I would like to point out that Harpeth Hall puts up numerous play, dance, and photography signs at M.B.A. Never has one been sabotaged.

The only function of the signs was draw support for our football team; if that encourages the feeling of being walked on, then a feeling of insecurity is clearly present.

Those at MBA appreciate the help of the girls at the Spaghetti Supper. We do not care if the girls refuse our invitations, but if these invitations are accepted, complaining and whining about our discrimination towards women is not appropriate.

If you have an opinion
express it
in

The Bell Ringer
Montgomery Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee

Flag Waiving at MBA

by David Wyckoff writer

At the final regular season home football games, versus Hillsboro and Hillwood, I was disturbed to see a group of students waving a Rebel flag. This flag symbolizes everything for which the Confederate States of America stood: states' rights, the southern lifestyle, and slavery... The list goes on for pages of historical essays. Why did these students wave the "Stars and Bars"? I don't think for states' rights; not for the University of Mississippi. They were waving it for the "glory of the South," including slavery.

What they meant by the showing of the flag is irrelevant. The Confederate

flag carries with it the horrible connotations of slavery and racism. Slavery is dead; racism unfortunately still lives. I am proud to know that most students here do not embrace racism. I am also disgusted to know that there are a few racists on campus.

Visitors seeing this flag waved in MBA's stands can't help to associate our school with racism. Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but when that opinion drags the image and reputation of this school through the mud, that opinion must not be tolerated. Let us not give false impressions of the school to visitors; let's instead show them our school spirit.

photo by David Schenk



ENTERTAINMENT

Morrissey - "Bona Drag"

by Eric Greenwood
entertainment editor
Throughout the short career of the Manchester band The Smiths, lead vocalist Morris-



sey acquired a devoted following which hung on his every utterance. Morrissey's lurking, angelic voice and his lyrics of blatant self pity combined with the musical genius of guitarist Johnny Marr made the The Smiths' cult favorites among England's directionless youth in 1984.

Within the next three years, The Smiths would go on to release four actual albums of new material and become one of England's most prominent bands. They became underground heroes in America as well. By 1987, with the release of *Strange-ways, Here We Come*, The Smiths were on their way to legendary status.

After the tour for *Strange-ways*..., guitarist Johnny Marr decided to leave the band, thus ending a brilliant musical partnership between his arrangements and Morrissey's lyrics. Marr found a permanent slot in Matt Johnson's The the as well as working

with bands ranging from the Talking Heads to his side project with New Order vocalist Bernard Sumner entitled Electronic. Devastated

Hulmerist

fans hoping for a reunion were disappointed, but Morrissey sealed a partnership with producer Steven Street and released his first solo album, *Viva Hate*, in early 1988.

Morrissey proved that he could survive with The Smiths on this brilliant debut. Songs such as "Every Day is like Sunday" and "Suedehead" rank with the best of The Smiths even though his style is a change of direction from The Smiths. Since *Viva Hate*, Morrissey has been releasing new singles every few months without releasing an album. His first home video, documenting seven of his singles entitled *Hulmerist*, hit the stores in August.

Finally, over two and half years after *Viva Hate*, Morrissey released *Bona Drag* on November 6. The new album includes all of Morrissey's solo singles and their B-sides. The new single "Piccadilly Palare" starts off *Bona Drag* in an upbeat fashion, moving

by Trip McLaughlin
staff writer

When outsiders hear of Nashville, they think of country music. However, Nashville is forming a decent alternative music scene. The local scene has music ranging from hard core or punk to a truly mellow alternative sound. A great way to hear the sounds of local artists is on the 91.1 Rock's local show at 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

Recently, 91 Rock had a benefit and several local artists provided entertainment. The show featured Wishcraft, The Land, Alien in the Land of our Birth, Rednecks in Pain, Rood Society, and a few more unknown artists.

Wishcraft and Rednecks in Pain (commonly called R.I.P.) are longstanding hard core/punk artists. The energy these bands produce allow them to survive in the changing world of music. One of the more known thrash bands

right into the rhythmic "Interesting Drug," a song that stands up for the treatment of animals. In "Will Never Marry," Morrissey explains (once again) his lonely celibate lifestyle: "I'm writing this to say/ in a gentle way/ Thank you but no/ I will live my life as I will undoubtedly die-alone."

Lyrically the album is very rewarding especially on "Yes, I am blind" and "Suedehead" which includes a strong dose of modern guitar. "The last of the Famous International Playboys" and "November spawned a Monster" exemplify Morrissey's vocal strength. Morrissey plans to play his first concert dates in the U.S. since The Smiths early next year.

He also plans to release another album of new material in mid-'91. Until then, *Bona Drag* is well worth the wait.

-Check Out the Local Music Scene-

is Forever Ungrateful Coronark Technikation. This band has travelled to Germany recently for an independence celebration and is gaining a reputation outside of Nashville. Clockhammer has also toured certain states and continues to thrive. They recently released a new album which is often played on 91 Rock. Bunny Yum and Stupid Americanz are the other promising local acts. Because of recent disputes, however, they will not be playing until new members are found.

The Land is a new Nashville sound. The band has a sound to meet any music lover. There song "Medication" is a favorite among 91 disc jockies. Another pioneer in harder music of Nashville is Alien in the Land of our Birth. This band has come a long way and continues to improve. There stage performance is unsurpassed in the Music City.

The only band who can come close to Alien is the Grinning Plowman. The band plays a dark and undecipherable type of music. I have not heard from them since the release of *I Play Jupiter* last spring. Another band that confuses the masses is Rood Society. They have a truly unique sound that appeals to the crowd. Their album can be obtained from Fantasy Jewelry in Stone Mountain.

The latest band to be signed by a major label and

shed the Nashville image is Chagual Guevara. They had a song, "Tale of the Twister," in the movie *Pump up the Volume*. In addition, the band will have an album out in early 1991; you can look for many good things to come from this group.

Other bands which are prospects for a major label include: Under the Big Top, Remy Zero, and These Are Houseplants. Under the Big Top will probably be the next band signed from the Nashville area. Some older alternative favorites include Jet Black Factory, Walk the West, 11-59, and Stop the Car. Jet Black Factory and Walk the West have both come close to getting signed by a major label but have been unsuccessful. 11-59 is a band which pops in and out of the scene and has an excellent sound. The Neon Gods won the Snickers new music search and seems to appeal to the locals. Three younger bands which have promise are Josh Kishner, the Rainfellows, and Sit A While with Ed.

I was not able to include all the local bands and duly apologize. One way find out more is the Nashville Scene or on 91 Rock. In order to attract larger concerts to Nashville, we must improve our local scene. So come out and support your scene at local shows.



Deja Vu?

photo by David Schenk

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POTPOURRI

...Debate from page 2

speaker, respectively. Bob Hartman and Naresh Nagella reached the semis; Brandon "Lizzard" Hulette and Flag "Devil" Youngblood did not attend this tournament.

The first weekend of December marked the high point of the debate year, the Andrew's High School tournament in High Point, North Carolina. In the varsity round robin, Babu and Rob placed third overall, and Babu was named fourth speaker. In the ordinary varsity division, the team of Behdad and Suresh were undefeated until the final round, which they lost. Andrew "Ben Johnson" Vahrenkamp and Patrick "I wanna go to Cocomo" Jackson as well as Breen "Way to keep time" Frazier and Bones Vaikunth fared well, as Breen was fourth speaker and Behdad was sixth. The novice teams met the end of their winning ways, as only the team of Bartley "Is there a debate medal?"

McGehee and Naresh Nagella reached the elimination rounds. Bart was named third speaker, actually beating Jason "Mutant Gargoyle" Bennett's monopoly for the first time this season. Jason finished fifth, Matt Foster fourth in Dramatic Interpretation, and Ron "Surface-to-Babe Missile" Cantrell fared well in an advanced division. The team finished in third place overall.

A lull in the action will take place after a December 7-8 tournament in Cincinnati, where the team of Bones "Sachin" Vaikunth and Andrew "Hercules" Vahrenkamp will debate together for the first time. Also debating is the powerful team of Breen and Pat in this rare JV tournament. Hopefully, the team will fare as well as it has during the previous part of the season.

by Earle Simmons
staff writer

An incredibly energetic band to look out for is Blues Traveler. The band which originated in the mid 80's in New York City is now captivating fans of all types with their unique sounds of diversity. The most notable sound is that of the harmonica played by lead singer and band leader, John Popper.

Popper inspired by the Blues Brothers, transforms the traditional blues harp sound into an instrument that comes across as a lead instrument with a more than captivating sound of skill.

Each member of the band has their own sense of style that individualizes his instrument. In other words, there are no time keepers. The band's obvious aim is a sound of improvisation, not a rigid plan.

The band, which is very popular in the northeast and midwest, is now making its mark all over the country.

tion of rock, blues, and jazz creates its own game of music. The most important goal of the band is to have fun, and with that in mind, they should

"In order to attract larger concerts to Nashville we must improve our local scene."

The rest of the band is comprised of Chan Kinchla on guitar, Bob Sheeton on bass, and Brenden Hill on drums. Their self-titled first album includes songs such as "But Anyway" and "Drop-pin' Some NYC" which prove the band's skill and passion as a unit. Songs such as "100 years" and "Gina" show Popper's vocal range from soothing to sizzling.

The high energy combina-

go a long way. For anyone who enjoys the sounds of The Grateful Dead, The Blues Brothers, Miles Davis, or The Allman Brothers, Blues Traveler is a must.

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Musical Constitutions - What is the government's role ?

by Robert Howell

writer

In nineteen-ninety, we have seen the beginning of a new decade, the beginning of a new world order, and yet another year in which America has remained on top and has continued its balancing act of freedom and security. America is still the world leader in retaining a free public, and we seem to pride ourselves upon that fact. However, while we wear that medal upon our chests, there are certain situations which we overlook. We sometimes use our status as an excuse for violating rights. During the years of Reagan, nationalism and a new morality were instilled in our nation. Unfortunately, this new morality was so embraced by some that it began to be enforced instead of merely demonstrated. A primary example of these situations is in the music industry.

In music, more and more artists are being attacked for their distasteful recordings, because people

ignore the fact that the first amendment requires objectivity. In 1985, the PMRC was formed around the belief that music had gotten a bit too outrageous for our youth. Tipper Gore and her army began campaigning to label certain artists' albums as distasteful. This is when the battle between musicians and the government began to take shape.

By placing a sticker on the albums of artists, the government would be in violation of the first amendment for freedom of speech. Such an amendment is supposed to keep us free from restrictions that are brought upon us by the opposing viewpoints of other people. This rule is especially applicable when the opposing viewpoints are held by those who are in charge. Unfortunately, Mrs. Gore and those with governmental influence ignore our rights and the rights of our artists, using the excuse of Morality.

It all comes down to taste. Just because Mrs. Gore likes Barry Manilow, and I do not, does not mean that I am

incorrect. By the same token, if 2 Live Crew wants to rap of sex and violence, and the mother's club does not like hearing such "filth," that does not make either group incorrect. That is why homogeneous laws based upon opinions are violations of rights. In any such instance, a group's right to listen to what they want would be restricted.

Such is the case for the banning of music, but what of the "mere" labelling of productions? Labelling obviously is a more coercive action toward the restricting of rights. In this situation, the government tampers with the work of an artist, and provides a negative critique on the album. This is analogous to forcing an author to include student complaints on its brochure. Adding to the problem, is that in this situation, the critic (the government) asserts that its opinion is the "legal truth," when there cannot be such a thing in a discussion of taste and morality. But in this age of nationalism and morality, the public accepts the word of the government as truth. So not only

has the government unfairly tampered and tainted the work of the artist, but it has provided an economic disincentive for the artist to produce his work the way he wants it to be.

Actions such as these result in the violation of rights in several ways. First of all, it discriminates against the artist by hurting him economically because of his style of music. This results in other violations of rights. Once an artist finds it in his economic interest to change his style of music, he might be led to do so. It is in this way that Big Brother, uh, The U.S. Government can control our listening of music.

This is only the first step that will be taken. If these pressures do not work, full censorship is bound to follow. Then all we will hear is what the government wants us to hear, perhaps New Kids on the Block or some other group advocated by the government. Soon our coercive government will seek to hire Orwell and Huxley to help do their work. Our medals of liberty will become electronic monitoring devices, and we

will do what we are told.

There is still possible salvation. Those who are over eighteen should vote. Instead of voting on who released a criminal, or who is more patriotic, vote for who represents your beliefs. Those who do not vote can persuade others to do so, or just stand strong in their beliefs. Liberty is what our country is based upon, and our forefathers did a good job of obtaining it for us, so we should preserve it and not destroy it because of our tastes. Music is what is closest to us on that issue, and it is on this that we should take our stand.

**"Of this I am not
heedless:/ 'Tis a
pity, and a pity
'tis/ To consider
grapes not
seedless/ How
pitty they is!"**

scribe extraordinaire

Think about it.

SPORTS

Varsity Football Concludes Record Setting Season at 12-1

by Roe Elam

staff writer

The 1990 MBA football team recently completed one of the finest seasons in recent MBA history. The Big Red won big game after big game, impressing many doubters of the team's talent. The team's accomplishments were so impressive that one has to look back a few decades to find a team as outstanding as this year's bunch. The team was so solid throughout that the Big Red could have possibly fielded two teams of equal ability. This year's offense was lead by captains De Thompson and Robert Echols. Opening huge holes for the many Big Red running backs was possibly the best the offensive line in the midstate. MBA operated the wishbone offense so consistently all year that, until the playoffs, no defense was able to stop them. Like the offense, the Big Red defense was as extremely consistent, stalling the most potent offenses in the state.

Beginning the season with a good outlook, MBA opened up with a victory against Beach and then went on to pick up impressive victories over Pearl Cohn and Hendersonville. The Big Red met their first tough opponent in Warren Central and played neck and neck with the best team in the state of Kentucky. MBA virtually shut down Warren Central's high power-

ered offense. The Big Red was lead by senior David Mason with his big plays on both offense and defense. The game culminated with an overtime goal line stand to preserve an MBA victory. MBA supporters went home feeling good about the Montgomery Bell Academy football team. David Mason knew the importance of the early season victory. "It projected us into our quest to go 10-0. And as Coach Owen said after the end of the game, '10-0 men.'"

The MBA squad went on to pick up a victory over Hunters Lane, giving Coach Owen his 250th victory. As Mason says, "His 250 wins just show his outstanding commitment and love for the game of football." After Hunters Lane, the Big Red stomped the highly acclaimed studs of Father Ryan which sent MBA to Whites Creek feeling confident. The impressive performance at Whites Creek was sparked by the football team's strong senior class. Leading the seniors was fullback Chris Vlahos, who, as usual, played a very strong game by running over practically every Whites Creek defender. Also in the Whites Creek game, the Big Red saw a promising future for next year's squad with touchdowns by Shad Weaver, Joe Underwood, and Andy Russ. After pounding the Creek, MBA continued its

intense play on the field against Overton and Hillsboro.

The season finale against 9-0 Hillwood and was the most publicized game in the state that night. The winner would be the only unbeaten team in Nashville. The stadium was packed with sportsfans from all over the midstate. The Big Red surprised everyone by blowing away Hillwood on the first series, and Hillwood's highly publicized offense never found the endzone. Big play man Chris Johnston put out the Hilltoppers' flame time and time again. Another junior, Shad Weaver, produced the most impressive run of the season, galloping fifty yards, before a lucky Hillwood player made a shoe string tackle to save a touchdown. "I just got some good blocks up front and was able to find some daylight," said Weaver about his run. Weaver also added about the game, "The whole team was playing at such a high level of intensity throughout the game that our team could have beaten anyone. It was a great game."

Weaver was not the

only player who produced the big plays. Senior Tate McDaniel came up with several big plays which helped lead the offense against a scrappy Hillwood defense. The regular season finale ended with a 20-0 victory for the Big Red and propelled them into the playoffs on the right foot.

Montgomery Bell Academy opened up against an intense Glencliff team, but managed to come away with a victory. The win sent the mighty Big Red to Gallatin to play the defending state champions. MBA was facing its toughest opponent of the year, and a win could put the Big Red in the elite group of football powerhouses. The teams played evenly, unable to crack each others defenses. Finally, Robert Echols came up with a beautiful interception which set up the game's only score by De Thompson; Pat Harkleroad put on a show for the college scouts by keeping MBA out of trouble by sailing punts over the return man's head. One of these punts went from MBA's 19 to Gallatin's one foot line. Glenn Harris was equally

impressive with his tough runs against the best defense MBA faced all year. Big play man Bryan Bleecker and very tough Michael Brooks helped keep Gallatin out of the endzone. After the 7-0 victory at Gallatin, the Big Red faced an unknown Germantown team, which caught MBA thinking about their Thanksgiving meal. The final game against Germantown was hard fought, and found MBA playing a football team that was overpowering. The season ended on a sad note. As De Thompson said, "It was a great season, and it was too bad that it ended with a loss."

One should not sulk about the loss against Germantown because a 12-1 season is quite impressive. The football team was headed by great senior leadership, both on and off the field, and by the best coach in the state. The 1991 football team has a lot to build on and should continue the Big Red's winning ways. All Montgomery Bell Academy followers are still jawing about a season that possibly featured the best squad in MBA football history.

photo by David Schenk



The referees reach for the sky as a result of Big Red firepower



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SPORTS

Big Red Hoopsters Off to Strong Start (Yeah!)

by Brent Miller

writer

The 1990 M.B.A. Varsity Basketball team has started its season with a record nothing less than perfect. With eight wins under its belt, the team is cruising through its schedule without much trouble.

The Big Red opened its season with two impressive wins against the Panthers

second round. The Big Red forced the Eagles into overtime and proved they were the better team by outscoring Clarksville by ten points.

The Big Red then rolled on to face Jo Burns in the finals of the tournament and easily captured the championship. Next, M.B.A. journeyed to Franklin to face tra-

photo by Charles Israel



Alex Waddey slams it home as number 32 stands in awe.

of Maplewood and the Bears of Mt. Juliet, whom they faced in the first round of the Keysaer Memorial Tournament. So far, the only real test faced by the Big Red occurred when the team traveled to Davidson Academy to do battle with the Eagles from Clarksville Northeast in the

ditional rival B.G.A. The Mighty Red continued its winning ways by trampling the Wildcats in an impressive road game. The next challenge for the Big Red would be two district games against Hillsboro and Father Ryan. M.B.A. thrashed the unimpressive Hillsboro squad in a

game that saw the Mighty Red Machine pump in well over one-hundred points. The following week saw the Big Red pommel the mere boys from the evil empire of Elliston Place. Upon seeing the 71-59 final score, it was obvious that the Irish could not withstand the force applied by the team's intense defense and the dazzling array of dunks by veteran point guard Alex Waddey.

In the next game, the Mighty Red faced non-district opponent Cookeville. This game was to be a matter of pride, for MBA had never beaten Cookeville. At the sound of the final buzzer, the scoreboard showed that the Big Red had upped its record to 8-0 going into a major district match-up against Whites Creek, *USA Today's* 11th-ranked high school boys basketball team.

The success of the Big Red can be attributed to hard work during the summer which has helped the team gel together and play as one unit. The five starters, who display speed and quickness as well as strength and power, are Hunter Connelly, Taylor Mayes, Walter Southwood, Alex Waddey, and Charlie Williams. A strong bench consisting of Patrick Hale, David Fitzgerald, John Schlansker, Joe Underwood, and R. A. Dickey support the starting five. The team looks forward to a most successful season with the brilliance of a great coaching staff, intense teamwork, and incredible fan support.

Microbe Teams have successful Seasons

Cross Country

by Julian Bibb

writer

This year was one of supreme success for the microbe cross-country team. The team finished the year with 18 wins and no losses.

In the final meet held at Brentwood High School, the Microbes took first place as they dominated every opposing school.

Rob Welhoelter won the race by beating out a CPA runner by a bodylength and finishing with a time of 7:56. James Gunn finished third with an 8:13. Mark Wyckoff took fourth and Jonathan Fly took eleventh with times of 8:15 and 8:23, respectively.

Other finishers who placed well on the miracle team were Jim Alley, who placed 13th, Benjie Griffith, 14th, Andrew Love, 18th, and Grant Martin 19th. Coaches Mrs. Christenson and Mr. Gaither were extremely pleased with the team's performance.

They are looking forward to next year in the hopes that the 'crobes will do well once again.

Football

by Andrew Vahrenkamp

The Microbe football team has just finished a very impressive season. Lead by coaches Tom Moore, Jeff Forehand, Joe Davis, and Tad McWhirter, they went 5 and 1 losing only to Brentwood Academy in the regular season. The Microbes then went on to finish the season by playing Lewisburg in the Lewisburg Junior Walking Horse Bowl, and losing 22 to 7 after playing one of their strongest games of the year. Brian Camp and Eric Schenk both held the offensive line while making holes for Tony Greer, John Gaston, David Stifford, J.T. Davenport, and quarterback Andrew Walker. The defense consisted of strong safety J.T. Davenport, safety Anderson Williams, right cornerbacks Andrew Stahl and Jackson Dale, left cornerback Fletcher Tidwell, and linebackers David Stifford and Straton Huggins. With a junior school team this strong, we should be looking at a very exciting team next year.

The Crappie Corner

by Malcolm Sewell and
Hunter Connelly
staff anglers

For this issue of the "Crappie Corner," we're going to talk about the fish that gave us our name, the crappie. For those of you who like simple fishin', an easy fight, and a good meal, crappie's just for you. Now don't get me wrong! Crappie are not weak

photo by David Schenk



fish. They just don't put up quite the fight that some of them other freshwater fighters do. As for crappie fishing around here, we recommend Percy Priest and Kentucky Lake. Percy Priest is full of crappie and is very close. For starters, even for professionals, you may want to take a guide with you. They are available to take you crappie fishing at Percy Priest. As for Kentucky Lake, it's a pretty good drive, but it's well worth the trip. You are sure to catch your share of good-sized crappie on this lake.

Well, for a great meal and a fun time, visit one of these lakes. You won't regret it. From your friends at the "Crappie Corner", Good Day and Good Fishin'.

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SPORTS

Varsity Wrestling Team Pins Opponents

by Luke Davis

Sports Editor

To all those with close friends on the Wrestling team: although your comrades have grown thin and sawed of cheek, bruised of body, and strange of mind, there is no reason to worry. Your heroic grappling warriors are merely focusing themselves for the upcoming chivalrous battles of Tennessee High School wrestling.

This year's crop of mat hounds brings together a mixture of highly experienced veterans and young athletes who are looking to fill the void left by the graduation of seven of last year's starters. The squad is to a large degree untested, as it attempts to finalize a lineup that is still being adjusted, as several wrestlers who have been occupied winning the region championship arrive. Speaking of championships, MBA will also be looking to defend the Region 6 title they won last year from Overton and other challengers. While nobody can know how they'll do this early in the year, the seniors are confident in the team's ability.

On November 27, the Big Red faced its first match, against the perennially talented

Brentwood High squad. Jim Uden (103 lbs.), Dudley Hammon (119 lbs.), Brett Sanders (125 lbs.), Lance Carney (145 lbs.), and John Butler (160 lbs.) all scored victories for MBA. In addition, Spencer Leek (140 lbs.) posted a dramatic win, coming from eight points down to claim victory. Despite not having any practices because of football, Sam Bartholomew (heavyweight) iced the win over the Bruins with a quick pin.

In the Green Hills Classic, many underclassmen filled in for seniors involved in college testing, and scored a suprising first place finish by the runaway margin of over 100 points. Uden, Hammon, and Carney were champions in their divisions, while Glenn Gaston (112 lbs.), Sanders, Anthony Albrecht (140 lbs.), and Bartholomew won second. Third place finishers included Carter Baker (152 lbs.) and Sonny Heiser (160 lbs.).

The following week, the team headed down to Bradley County, Tennessee, to take part in the annual Cleveland Duals. After the Saturday morning weigh-in, where one MBA wrestler found that he had gained three pounds over-

night (Dorito's?), they proceeded to march through their round-robin pool of Tennessee High, Cleveland High, and Knoxville Halls en route to the finals. One mark of the preliminary dominance MBA showed was in the fact that at one point in the Halls match they led 56 to -1.

In the finals, highlighted by the dramatic wins of Uden, Sanders, Downer, Szydlo, Carney, Baker, and Bartholomew, the Big Red defeated Hixson High for the first time in history to claim the championship. At Rax afterwards, the team gorged themselves on roast beef sandwiches and milkshakes and admired the beautifully sculpted trophies, which included Uden's Most Valuable Wrestler and Downer's Best Wrestler awards.

The varsity has high hopes for the season ahead. Several spectators in Cleveland noted that the Big Red grapplers are succeeding as a team, not as a group of individuals. In keeping with this team spirit, they would appreciate the 14th wrestler element, the crowd, at any matches.



The 1990 Cross Country team poses for a picture. photo by Dell Crosslin

Good Luck to the 1990-1991 Varsity Wrestling Team during the entire season!!

-from a friend

Varsity Cross Country
-The End of the Road-by Justin Crosslin
staff writer

As the end of the season approached, the Cross Country team started coming all together. In the District Championships, both the varsity and JV dominated all the other teams in the AAA division. In the varsity race, Justin Crosslin turned in his PR (personal record) of 17:12. In the JV race, Josh Dike ran an amazing 17:22, winning the JV district with Scott Hande two seconds behind, breaking his previous PR by 40 seconds. Both Matt and Josh turned in good enough times to earn a spot on the varsity. The following week, on October 25, the Big Red varsity took its tenth Region V championship in as many years with a romp over all opponents. The second place team was about 65 points behind the Big Red. Despite injuries to Taylor Harris and Alex "Bzzzzt" Rogers, the JV stole the Region V title taking the top five places as well as seventh and eighth places. In this particular meet, the Red began showing real signs of being among the top two in the state. Casey Jones blew the field away winning with a time of 15:34, tying the Region V record. Keith Ikard finished second while Roy Alley also PR'ed with a time of 15:59, placing third in the race. John Crosslin finished an outstanding fifth for the team with a

17:11, a PR. In the JV race, Jason "It's smelly; I'm going home" Barton set a PR of 18:28; Bob West also acquired a PR. Both he and Jason finished in the top five for the JV. Other JV finishers were George Rietz, who came through with a strong race, and Frazer Buntin who had a PR of 18:14. Coming off an injury, David Wyckoff attained his PR for the year, too. Glenn Gaston ran a good time, qualifying him for the state team.

When Saturday, November 3 arrived, the team of Keith Ikard, Casey Jones, Roy Alley, Justin Crosslin, John Crosslin, Matt Zibas, and Glenn Gaston ran against the best teams in the state. Unfortunately, the team members did not run their best races. Although the team finished fourth in the state, which is the best an MBA team has ever done, it was a disappointing loss to the three East superpowers: Dobyns-Bennett, Farragut, and Oak Ridge. Next year, MBA will have an equally good chance to do well although it will lose Keith Ikard, Casey Jones, George Rietz, Logan Fortner, and Clay Posey to graduation.

The 1990 MBA cross country team would like to extend sincere thanks to all those teachers, students, friends, and other spectators who supported the Big Red throughout the entire season.

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